MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Held in Washington, D.C., August 28,1947.

The first meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, during the fiscal year 1948, was held in its office in the Interior Department Building on Thursday, August 28, 1947. The following members were present:

Mr. Clarke, Chairman,
Mr. Finley, Vice Chairman,
Mr. Aldrich,
Mr. Reinhard,
Mr. Murphy,
Mr. Lawrie,

also H. P. Caemmerer, Secretary and Administrative Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING: The Minutes of the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, held on June 19, 1947, were approved.

2. FIFTEENTH REPORT OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS: The Secretary presented the draft of the Fifteenth Report of the Commission of Fine Arts, for the period from July 1, 1944, to June 30, 1948.

The Commission agreed that the Chairman should review the Report, with a view to having it ready for submission to the President next spring and for transmittal by him to the Congress for printing. The Report will cover the period of the Administration of President Truman.

3. RATIFICATION OF SUBMISSIONS:

(a) General Pershing Medal: The Commission ratified the action of the Chairman in approving, on the recommendation of Mr. Lawrie, the models prepared by Anthony de Francisci, sculptor, for the General Pershing Medal. A Report had been sent to the Director of the Mint accordingly (Exhibit A).

(b) Lighting Standard for the Twin Bridges at Fourteenth Street: Chairman

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Mr. Reinhard,
Mr. Murphy,
Mr. Lewis,

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(b) Lighting Standard for the Twin Bridges at Fourteenth Street: Chairman

Clarke stated that recently a design was received from Mr. Henry R. Shepley, architect of the Twin Bridges to be built at Fourteenth Street which seemed satisfactory and that he approved it by letter to Capt. H. C. Whitehurst, Director of Highways of the District of Columbia (Exhibit B).

There was some discussion as to the design, but Chairman Clarke stated that when cast the lighting standard would be in keeping with the architecture of the bridge. The Commission thereupon ratified the action of the Chairman in this matter.

(c) Location of the Nathan Hale Statue: Chairman Clarke stated that on July 29, 1947, he was called to Washington and during the day attended a committee meeting with Mr. Finley, Mr. Murphy and Mr. Douglas W. Orr, President of the American Institute of Architects, who is the architect for the pedestal of the statue, which is to be located on the grounds of the Department of Justice Building, along Constitution Avenue.

During the inspection of the site, it was decided that the statue should be located to the east of the main entrance rather than to the west, so as to give the statue an unobstructed vista southward, and the Commissioner of Public Buildings was informed accordingly (Exhibit C).

The Commission ratified the action of the Committee and later in the day inspected the pedestal in place. Mr. Lawrie stated that the pedestal is satisfactory, but he regretted the lettering had been sand-blasted rather than carved.

4. MODELS FOR THE GENERAL WILLIAM MITCHELL MEDAL: Models by Erwin Springweiler, sculptor, were submitted by the Director of the Mint, with letter as follows:

August 27, 1947.

"I am, today, sending the plaster models for the gold medal authorized by the Congress to honor the late General William Mitchell.

"Having been informed that your Commission will meet tomorrow, I am hoping for an early expression from it as to the artistic merits of the design, which I will much appreciate. The design is the product of Mr. Erwin Springweiler."

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Mr. Lawrie gave the models particular attention, and thought that Mr. Springweiler had produced a very good set of models. The eagle for the reverse Mr. Lawrie thought to be excellent. He suggested omission of the clouds indicated on either side of General Mitchell's face, and the Commission approved the models with this suggestion (Exhibit D).

5. AMERICAN CAMPAIGN MEDAL: Mr. Arthur Dubois, Chief of the Heraldic Division of the Office of the Quartermaster General, War Department, presented a model by Thomas H. Jones, sculptor, for the obverse of the American Campaign Medal, with letter as follows:

August 26, 1947.

"There is forwarded herewith a plaster model of the obverse of the American Campaign Medal, prepared by Mr. Thomas H. Jones, which has met with the concurrence of the War and Navy Departments. All the designs for the obverse of this medal, previously submitted, were considered and disapproved by the War and Navy Departments.

"In view of the desire to get this medal under procurement, it is requested that your advice as to the merits of this design be furnished.

"The model of the eagle executed by Mr. Weinman for the reverse of the three campaign medals will be used as the reverse for this medal."

Mr. Dubois stated that this model by Mr. Jones has been made after careful study in cooperation with the branches of the Service indicated on the model, as being those that had an important part in winning the War,--namely, airplane, ship, submarine, and arsenals or supply depots.

Mr. Lawrie examined the model and thought it to be satisfactory. Upon his recommendation the Commission approved it (Exhibit E).

6. BALCONY FOR THE SOUTH PORTICO OF THE WHITE HOUSE: Chairman Clarke reported that recently President Truman was in Charlottesville and became impressed with an upper balcony on one of the colonial buildings of the Quadrangle at the University of Virginia. When he returned to Washington, the President, through Mr. Crim, Chief Usher, conferred with Mr. Finley concerning the matter, saying he desired an upper balcony on the South Portico of the White House for his use, particularly on hot evenings. It was agreed to have a

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committee meeting on July 29 at the White House to discuss the subject. At that meeting there were present, in addition to Mr. Crim and Mr. Winslow, Chairman Clarke, Mr. Finley, and Mr. Murphy. They inspected the drawing that had been made by Architect Winslow, and the Committee agreed that the advice of one of the leading architects who had done work on the White House should be secured. Accordingly, Mr. William Adams Delano, who had designed the dormitories on the roof behind the balustrade, built about twenty years ago, was selected to advise in the matter. Chairman Clarke emphasized the fact that at the time no assurance could be given that the project would be approved by the Commission of Fine Arts. Thereupon Mr. Delano made a sketch of the second balcony superimposed on an enlarged photograph of the south facade of the White House. This Chairman Clarke presented at the meeting of the Commission. In view of the great importance of this matter, he also presented a brief historical sketch on the White House, as follows:

The White House

The White House was designed by James Hoban, of Dublin, Ireland, following a competition. The cornerstone was laid on October 13, 1792. The building was partially completed for occupancy by President John Adams in November, 1800.

The White House was partially destroyed by fire by the British in August, 1814. It was restored under the direction of Hoban during the following year.

It is believed that the north and south porticoes were included in the original plans by Hoban but these were not added to the White House until later; the south portico about 1825, and the north portico about 1829---both during the administration of John Quincy Adams.

In 1902 the White House was remodeled (during the administration of Theodore Roosevelt) by Charles F. McKim. The original design of the exterior by Hoban was retained throughout.

It appears, therefore, that no changes have been made in the exterior of the White House proper since the addition of the north portico in 1829, a period of 118 years.

The Commission inspected the print submitted by Mr. Delano and observed that, to allow the second balcony on the South Portico, would destroy the

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dignity of the free-standing columns and hence seriously alter the appearance of the south facade of the White House. This proposed alteration would result in violent protests from the same groups that had voiced opposition against enlarging the Executive Offices of the West Wing of the White House somewhat over a year ago.

After careful consideration, the Commission decided that they cannot approve any plan which will destroy the original design of an historic monument of the importance of the White House. Mr. Crim, Chief Usher of the White House, was informed accordingly (Exhibit F).

7. NATIONAL AIR MUSEUM: Major General U. S. Grant III, Chairman of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, presented a copy of Public Law No.722, 79th Congress (Exhibit G), under which Congress authorized the establishment of a national air museum.

Mr. W. T. Partridge, Architectural Consultant of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, reported that he had heard that officials of the Air Corps are considering a museum that would comprise 750,000 square feet in a building fully 1500 feet long and 500 feet wide. Just where such a building should be located presemts a problem.

It was decided that the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution should be consulted in the matter, since under the Act of Congress he is "directed to investigate and survey suitable lands and buildings for selection as a site for said national air museum. . . ."

It was pointed out that a proposed National Military Museum might be undertaking collections similar to those of the National Air Museum. There is also pending a proposed Naval Museum. It was thought that these museum features should be coordinated. Mr. Finley stated that the National Military Museum project has thus far reached the stage of having the draft of legislation presented to the President, for transmission by him to Congress.

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7. NATIONAL AIR MUSEUM: Major General L. S. Grant III, Chairman of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, presented a copy of Public Law No. 722, 79th Congress (Exhibit G), under which Congress authorized the establishment of a national air museum.

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8. VETERANS' HOSPITAL: The Secretary called the attention of the Commission to a copy of a letter addressed by the President to Major General U. S. Grant III, Chairman of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, stating that he (the President) appreciated the letter (signed by General Grant and Chairman Clarke) on the subject of the "Nevius Tract" and that "I still hope that the Hospital will be placed there - that is the logical place for it." Also, attention was called to copies of letters from the War Assets Administration (Exhibit H-1) and from General Omar N. Bradley, Administrator of the Veterans' Administration, on the same subject (Exhibit H-2). (Exhibit H)

During a discussion of the subject, at which General Grant was present, it was thought desirable to bring this information to the attention of the Attorney General, with a view to having him try to keep the land in question in the possession of the United States Government, so that it could be made a part of the Arlington National Cemetery. (Exhibit H-3).

9. SEAL FOR THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS: Chairman Clarke stated that, in looking back over the Minutes recently, he noted that Paul Manship had been asked to design a Seal for the Commission of Fine Arts; that it would be a useful thing to have, and he felt the time had come when something should be done about it. The suggestion was made in 1941 to have the Washington Monument as the central motif of the Seal with proper legend. It would be similar to the reverse of the medal designed for Dr. Moore by Mr. Lawrie.

The Commission concurred in the matter. Mr. Lawrie stated that if Mr. Manship would not have time to make the model he would do it.

As for the legend, the Commission decided having, "The Commission of Fine Arts" at the top and "United States of America" at the bottom; in the center the Washington Monument, and possibly the words, "Established by Act of Congress May 17, 1910. A letter was sent to Mr. Manship accordingly.(Exhibit I)

10. ART CENTER FOR WASHINGTON: The Secretary brought to the attention of the Commission a copy of a brochure received from General Grant, giving an outline of a proposed scheme for an Art Center in the City of Washington.

Chairman Clarke stated that, after reading it, he thought the scheme, to comprise an auditorium, theatre, opera house, commercial establishments as sources of revenue, to be "in the realm of the ethereal" and later in the day asked General Grant his views on the subject.

> General Grant said, "There are two things that are somewhat active now, as I understand it, and there was a bill before Congress for a third one. None of them seem to crystallize at all. A man was in with a scheme last Monday. You remember the block on Constitution Avenue where the Standard Oil Company's building is. He was proposing to build office buildings for the chancelleries of the embassies in that block, taking the whole block, and I told him maybe that was a very good idea, that we would get a decent building on the north side of Pennsylvania Ave.
>
> But it all went around the possibility of building an auditorium for music, musical education, international exchange of music information, shall we say, on the square on the Mall just east of Mr. Finley's building, the Mellon Gallery, and I told him I thought both the Fine Arts Commission and our Commission would object to any such use of that square, because that square should be held for an additional art gallery or an annext to the National Gallery, or something of that kind,---that galleries always do need annexes."

Chairman Clarke stated, "That is already reserved for the National Gallery in the Act of Congress creating the National Gallery of Art." And Mr. Finley remarked, "That is right, for any future addition, but mostly to protect it from being encroached upon. . . I would like to see an opera house built, if we can get anybody to furnish the money.

The Commission expressed doubt as to whether or not the scheme proposed ever would materialize and decided to await developments.

11. FEDERAL OFFICE BUILDING at 21st Street and Virginia Avenue: Mr. Allan S. Thorn, Assistant Supervising Architect, Public Buildings Administration, accompanied by Mr. Len Hunter, Chief of the Design Division and Mr. S.E.Sanders, Chief Site Planner, of that office, presented further and more detailed drawings for the extension of the Federal Office Building at 21st Street and Virginia

Avenue, Northwest, in which the Department of State is now located. The drawings involved in particular the treatment of the north facade facing E Street and the south facade facing C Street.

The Commission were well satisfied with the design presented. There was considerable discussion, however, regarding the use of sculpture in the nature of a frieze. Mr. Lawrie said that sculpture placed high up on the north side of the building would be useless, because it would not get proper light,---"I think your building is good enough not to need sculpture there at all." The other members of the Commission concurred.

Chairman Clarke stated that, in the absence of the painter member, Mr. Sterne, he would speak for him, and asked, "Are you going to have one monumental lobby here where you can use mural paintings?"

Mr. Hunter called attention to two lobbies. Mr. Thorn stated that this building, having a quiet exterior, their Office has given more particular attention to the question of sculpture for the building, but he thought it might develop there would be some places in the building where mural paintings could be installed.

On being asked whether his Office is adhering to the plan agreed upon several years ago to allow say 1 or 2% of the cost of the building for sculpture and paintings, Mr. Thorn said:

> "Our present policy is to use sculpture or mural paintings to the extent that we think the project will justify it, and for which funds are available. We haven't any 2 per cent. or 1 per cent. plan, or whatever it is. That is our present policy."

Mr. Aldrich remarked, "That is sound." The other members of the Commission concurred.

A report of approval of the design, omitting sculpture at the top as indicated on the drawing, was sent to Commissioner Reynolds (Exhibit J)

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12. GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE BUILDING: Mr. Allan S. Thorn, Assistant Supervising Architect, in company with Mr. Len Hunter, Chief of the Design Division, and Mr. S. E. Sanders, Chief Site Planner, Public Buildings Administration, submitted further and more detailed drawings for the General Accounting Office Building, stating: "We have one facade on the General Accounting Office which was approved in principle earlier. This is the G Street facade, and the H Street facade is very similar; we have not quite completed our development of that."

The drawing emphasized treatment of the main entrance on G Street and suggested using Cold Spring cornelian polished granite.

The Commission felt that the colored granite flanking the entrance element should be dropped to the level of the window sills.

Mr. Hunter said, "On the H Street side, we would have only about three feet of granite up to the window sill," and at the corner it goes down practically to two feet.

Mr. Clarke felt the red granite ought to have a level line all the way round, dropped to a line at the top of the sill of the first-floor windows, except at the entrances, to give greater emphasis to these entrances. It was recalled that the building is a block long extending from Fourth to Fifth Streets, Northwest.

The other members of the Commission agreed to this, and a letter of approval was sent to the Commissioner of Public Buildings, accordingly (Exhibit K).

It was noted from the design that the block type of building has been adhered to. It is to accommodate about 10,000 persons.

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13. MARINE MEMORIAL: The Commission took under consideration a design for the Marine Memorial, the erection of which in the District of Columbia has been authorized by Congress (Exhibit L), and prints of which were submitted by the American Battle Monuments Commission with letter (and data) as follows:

July 30, 1947.

The Chairman,
National Commission of Fine Arts,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith are designs and correspondence relative to the erection of a memorial to the men of the United States Marine Corps who have given their lives to their country. These were submitted to our Commission by Colonel Halford and the architect, Mr. Paul Jacquet, with the information that your Commission desired approval by the American Battle Monuments Commission before your Commission would take any action in the matter.

Public Law 157 giving the Marine Corps League authority to erect a memorial specifically in Section 2 requires that the design and site of the memorial shall be approved by the National Commission of Fine Arts.

Inasmuch as our Commission is a creature of the United States Congress and this duty has been specifically delegated under the law just quoted to your Commission, I would appreciate it very much if your Commission would take action in the matter before any action is taken by our Commission. I hereby waive any nominal jurisdiction which our Commission might have in the matter of the site and design of such memorials in order that action may be expedited. I feel certain that I voice the sentiments of our Commission in letting you know that we feel that your Commission would not approve either a site or a design which would be in any way improper.

Under the Act of Congress authorizing the erection of this memorial, it is distinctly understood that the United States shall be put to no expense in or by the erection thereof. This means first that prior to the commencement of the erection, funds must be certified available in a sufficient amount by the Secretary of the Interior. In addition, I feel certain that our Commission will require definite proof that the necessary funds will be available for the perpetual maintenance of the memorial after erection.

Inasmuch as we are in hearty sympathy with the purpose of this memorial, we will appreciate anything your Commission may be able to do to assist the sponsors.

Sincerely yours,
Robert G. Woodside,
Vice Chairman.

It was decided to invite the representatives of the Marine Memorial Committee present to explain the project and the drawings. They consisted of Colonel Frank Halford, National Liaison Officer, Marine Corps League, Paul F. Jaquet, architect, and Mr. A. B. Bonds, a member of the President's Committee on Higher Education.

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[illegible]

Colonel Halford described the organization and explained the purpose of the Memorial at some length. His remarks are attached hereto and made a part of these Minutes (Exhibit I-1).

There is an Iwo Jima Memorial Association and a Marine Corps League. Col. Halford is the Liaison Officer between the League and the Association. He estimated the cost of the Memorial approximately $900,000, based upon plans by Mr. Jaquet, Architect and Mr. Felix deWelden, Sculptor.

Colonel Halford said that Mr. Jaquet's services as architect are so far rendered entirely voluntarily. Mr. Felix deWelden, who is the sculptor of the small temporary Iwo Jima monument on Constitution Avenue, has gone ahead with a full-sized model of the sculpture on his own, entirely voluntarily. He added further that there is no contract, no agreement whatsoever, with the artists. Mr. deWelden has prepared a model of a statue of six men raising the flag on Mount Suribachi at Iwo Jima. Three of the survivors were brought in and they posed for him. The other three are from the Rosenthal photograph. Col. Halford added that if Mr. deWelden proceeds with the work on his full-sized model it would possibly be ready in about five months.

Mr. deWelden was reported to be making a finished scale model for inspection by the Commission of Fine Arts,-one more finished than the rough study on Constitution Avenue. In the study of the large group Mr. deWelden noted certain things, made certain corrections, which he is now incorporating in the scale model.

Chairman Clarke then asked, "What has Mr. deWelden done before that some of us might know anything about; do you know? I don't think any of us know

him. Personally, I never heard of him. Is there anything in this country that he has done?

Mr. Jaquet replied, "There is quite a lot at Annapolis that he has done during and since the War. He has done three Kings of England---busts. He has studied in many countries and has done a great deal of work, and I feel that he ought to explain that phase of himself, and I will be glad to arrange that."

Mr. Bonds supplemented this by saying, "I wonder if I might interpolate just a word or two there. Mr. DeWelden has two large fountains, one in Vienna and one in London, entitled The Call of Spring. They are duplicates. They were commissioned by both those cities, respectively. He did the massive figures for the 1932 Olympics (at Los Angeles), the figures of the athletes there. He did the official coronation busts of George VI and Edward VIII, and he did the official twenty-fifth anniversary bust of George V. He has done Lloyd George and a great many of the English statesmen and royalty. He has done Mackenzie King, and during his tenure in the Navy he was assigned to the business of creating busts of the historic naval figures of this past War, and many of those are on display over at the Naval Museum in Annapolis."

Chairman Clarke asked if the model is being developed full size, and Mr. Jaquet replied "Yes." Col. Halford stated that Mr. deWelden is using the large brick building which was the studio of Paul Bartlett (in N.W.Washington). "When I took General Holland Smith in to see it, he having watched the flag-

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raising episode from the flagship through glasses, he got one look at this statue and he was overcome. . ." at the sight of it." The heads reach the roof and it was mentioned that the hats of the soldiers are 3 feet in diameter.

Thereupon, Chairman Clarke stated, "I do not think the Commission would want to express an opinion on this matter until it has seen the scale model. Mr. Lawrie can answer this question better than I can, but I don't think, personally, that it would be fruitful for us to look at the thing full size in a studio. You couldn't tell what it is all about.

Mr. Lawrie replied, "No, an enlargement of that sort would be very hard to see in the space of a studio."

Mr. Murphy asked about the scale of the smaller model, and Mr. Jaquet replied, "I believe it is about 7 feet long, and about 3 or 4 feet high and as wide. Just the group; not the whole thing."

There was some discussion about the actual scene when the photograph was taken and Mr. Bonds said, "We could, I think, make available to the Commission the official Marine Corps films."

Chairman Clarke then stated, "I should think the thing to do next would be to wait until we can view this scale model."

Mr. Jaquet then called attention to his drawings. "Those drawings," he said, "were prepared to create the mass and the general conception, the general idea, which was to go before the Congress and give them an idea of what the general picture was. The whole thing is very, very simple. There isn't much detail in the design. It is supposed to express the sculpture. The crypt is nothing but a case, and is practically in the ground."

Colonel Halford remarked, "This is not a Marine Corps Memorial in the strict sense of the word; this is a memorial to the Marine dead. I had that established at the beginning. Somebody objected to the phraseology; they thought it was a Marine Corps Memorial. . . . Then the question was whether the three boys who were killed would be interred down in the crypt. We have over 200 Medal of Honor boys, and while these boys were worth while, were real Marines, they were just the usual run of boys; so, no one is to be buried in there. It is to consist of rest rooms and trophy rooms.

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The drawings were then inspected, and explained by Mr. Jaquet, who said, "This plot plan was done just to develop a setting for the monument, which as you can readily see now is of tremendous scale. This is the monument here. While I am on this subject, the reason for this was to assimilate Suribachi prominence, and that means a lot to Marines. The desire is to try to assimilate the actual mount so far as is practical."

Mr. Lawrie asked, "What would be the material in the mount?"

Mr. Jaquet replied, "At the present time it is thought of as being bronze, as part of the group. We have not gone into all of the practical details, but that is the present thought."

Mr. Lawrie: "It would be a bronze roof to the crypt?"

Mr. Jaquet: "It would be a sculptured roof to assimilate as nearly as possible the Suribachi prominence. I will go backnto this again. This has just a few basic elements in here, perhaps more from Mr. Lawrie's point of view. This path that you see around here is taken at the point, that distance, and forms what they call the Memory Walk. It has the name, but that is the most advantageous point, the closest point, that the sculptor feels the statue should be viewed at all the way around. That is the reason for getting this study out, to establish those relations. That is at this elevation, and then at a greater distance is this outer path which is used by the public to view it at a greater distance. Then this reflecting pool, and what not, of course is obvious. That has been changed some-what, in order to get a reflection of the group in water and have some relation to its bearing on Suribachi and also on the relation of Marines to the actual work.

"There is another point I want to make. I will leave this here a moment, but here are the approaches. This is not for the site I am thinking of now. I have a little diagrammatic sketch for Hains Point on which you will find no change, practically, except that this left reflecting pool has been eliminated which is at the back of the group. The front of the group faces this way. The side that has become popular, showing all the figures, is this side here, and that is the side you approach from here. This is the west side and will get the sun more, naturally, than the other side. The group will face the south for light, facing down the river.

Mr. Aldrich: "That is, you see the individuals from that side; in other words, that is the side from which the picture was taken?"

Mr. Jaquet. "There are five men all putting the flag up, facing this way, but the popular side is the profile or the group of the five people as they are strung out in this direction, that is, from the west side. I might say there are many reasons why this drawing was developed, but the reason this side of the base here is kept plain is so that there is no competition, no competing interest at this point to the group; whereas this side here, the entrance to the crypt, is the lower level, and this is not sculpturally as interesting or as prominent or as meaningful as this side.

"So, that and the front are the prominent sides of the group, although it can be viewed all around. Here is the inscription of Admiral Nimitz's expressions at the time. Here is an inscription memorializing the Marines; and here are the names of all the battles fought by the Marines from the very beginning, around at this point.

"These flags are the Marinesflags of all the States, and in this case are treated a little bit differently than those down here. These are permanent granite blocks with bronze flagstaffs. These flags would be placed part of the time or not, just as you liked."

Mr. Reinhard asked, "How large is the monument? what scale?"
Mr. Jaquet replied, "This is a 40' scale. Maybe at this point I ought to show this diagram, speaking of scale and size. This is not a beautiful drawing but this part, you see, is exactly the same as that. For scale and size, this is 850 feet. This is 200 feet from there approximately to the road---in other words, from there to there (indicating) is approximately 250 feet. That is the present road down at the Point. . . The thought here was that there would be times when people would not go all the way, that they would go around the golf course (the golf course stops here), but this part in here would be the Marine Corps Memorial and Recreation Park. This is a large grassy area which would seat about 5,000 people for an official dedication or official function of some kind, or for recreational purposes, with a reflecting pool here. This is the point from which the group has its best points, the sculptured group.

Chairman Clarke asked Mr. Jaquet, "Have any overtures been made to the air arm of either Army or Navy with respect to that height in relatioship to Anacostia flying fields and the others? The reason I say that is this: Some years ago we had a submission here for a flagpole for that same general location, a memorial to Franklin K. Lane, who was Secretary of the Interior, and the flagpole was something like 100 feet high, and objections were raised on the part of the Army and Navy flying people across the river. It seems to me that you might clarify that, because we would have to---somebody would have to."

Mr. Jaquet replied, "We have done it informally. We have talked to some people about it and they say any plane that is as low as that would be in trouble anyway. Any plane leaving the airport or any ship now that comes in would be much higher than this."

Mr. Finley asked about the height to the top of the flag, and Mr. Jaquet replied, "This originally was 100 feet from here to here, and, in passing, it is estimated that this will all be lighted, the whole group from here and all the way around. It might not be esthetic, but possibly we might have to have a red light on the end of the flag. . . Those are all details that we have not gone into yet. This is to sort of get the general picture of it. Then there is also lighting out at this point here, back of these hedges around here, so that the whole thing can be lighted at night."

Mr. Reinhard: "The over-all dimension of that point is about 1600 feet, isn't it, taking in the whole structure?"

Mr. Jaquet: "As it is here now, that is exactly correct, Sir; and this area in here is 250 feet, or approximately 500 feet (crosswise) from there to there. The scale is rather large and distance would be required to view it.

A question was raised about underpinning, since East Potomac Park was formed from reclaimed land. In the case of the Jefferson Memorial it was necessary to drive piles 70 feet into the ground, and Hains Point is further down the river, 2 miles South. Mr. Jaquet remarked, "It is obvious that underpinning would be necessary. . . There is another thing about this, and you gentlemen will probably go into this. Last evening I studied the flood maps that they showed me, and the water does come up not too frequently, but

it does come up, and about every ten years, there is a great flood. What I have done here, with the hope of eliminating the incidence of flood nuisance was to raise this highway on both sides 1 per cent. from this point to there, and then it is level around here, which would make a wall about 6 feet high around this thing here, not for esthetic purposes, but it would certainly not be unpleasant, and I think it would help the composition, but it is done for practical reasons to get this point here in the neighborhood of 6 feet higher than it is now."

Chairman Clarke then asked, "Is there any encroachment on the golf course?"

Mr. Jaquet replied, "In this plan I have not encroached on it, although I did speak mf to the Engineer and he said some of these points could be moved down and they could change the golf course in due time and put other holes down here, revising this somewhat. But in this study here I have stayed clear of the golf course. I admit I hate to destroy some trees but some will have to come down and others will have to be planted, naturally."

A question was raised about the cost of the memorial, and Col. Halford said, "About $900,000."

Mr. Reinhard, "That is including the bronze?"

Mr. Jaquet: "Those figures---you know what figures are today."

Col. Halford: "For instance, Mr. deWelden has already bought his bronze and he has that stored. He has really gone into this thing.

Mr. Jaquet: "The plan, as you can see, is very simple. There is a practical thought here. In winter you have vestibules. This is simply a very simple memorial shrine with the sarcophagus emblematic of the dead. This frieze here shows the activities of the Marines. This will be carved in marble. Mr.deWelden thinks he probably would go to Italy to do that and do the rough cutting over there.

Mr. Murphy: "What would be the exterior material?"

Mr. Jaquet replied, "I am glad you asked that question, Sir. At the time this drawing was made that question was raised too, and in order not to compete with the other great **memorials** in white marble and granite, for one reason,but for the main reason that we want it to assimilate the actual conditions, we hoped to make this a bronze colored granite, using some of the granites you know about that I call bronze colored granites. This is a black granite, in order that the whole thing will assimilate the more or less natural conditions of Mt.Suribachi. In other words, it is not supposed to be a white marble or granite."

I wonder if I have covered all the points. Are there any other questions?

Chairman Clarke replied, "I think not." It was noted that the "base" would be 12 or 14 feet high, with one "floor" below ground. Mr. Jaquet called attention to the"Court of the Four Freedoms"where there would be a sarcophagus and where the wreaths would be placed.

Mr. Jaquet decided to leave the drawings for further study by the Commission of Fine Arts, and it was understood that there would be no publicity given them. Also the Commission decided to await the completion of the "seven foot model," heretofore mentioned, for inspection. Chairman Clarke asked Mr. Jaquet to inform the Secretary when it is ready, and thereupon arrangements would be made for a meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts to inspect the model.

14. PAN AMERICAN ANNEX: Mr. W. H. Livingston, of the firm of Harbeson, Hough, Livingston and Larson, Philadelphia, architects of the Pan American Annex, accompanied by Dr. William Manger, Counsellor for the Pan American Union, presented further drawings for the building to be built on the triangle at Constitution Avenue and 19th Street, N. W.

Mr. Livingston said:

"Gentlemen, I think you are all familiar with this problem. You approved it last year in its essentials, but there have been a few things changed in working it out to fit the modern needs of the client. After all, this thing was originally designed in 1934 or '35, and in the plot plan the main change we felt was necessary was this drive, which at that time was sort of buried by this retaining wall. It came in here and didn't look well. It got to be very steep here. They couldn't get in there with the kind of trucks which they need to come in, and we felt it would be much better and more nearly meet the desire to keep that complete and level there, as long as we have a nice building there at the end of it, and get the drive over here where we could take care of the kind of trucks that will be coming in. We feel it is better composition and looks much better.

It was very difficult to treat that properly architecturally. It just wasn't satisfactory to put in a wall and hide what we had there. This is already short, as you know. It is very difficult, with that roadway going through there, to compose those in any way, so that we felt this was essentially much quieter.

Mr. Clarke saw this plan, I know, last year, and we have kept the same general scheme of landscape treatment, excepting we feel it would be better to have this go completely over to the building. This corner would not look nearly as choked as it does here now. . . .

This just shows our plot, as far as detail goes. I think it is an improvement, and we feel, in studying this, that it is not only an improvement from the standpoint of esthetics but it is an improvement from the standpoint of actual working in the building. This was designed for what was known then. We can really get the kind of deliveries that they want there, and we think we have handled it in such a way that it would be an asset over this."

Chairman Clarke remarked that bringing the driveway in from the Nineteenth Street side is a real improvement and makes it possible to give the north side a "front door" treatment rather than a "back door" treatment. "It gives an opportunity to develop that north facade with greater facility, and it really becomes the important part of that court. That court is very handsome."

The building will be somewhat nearer Constitution Avenue than the other buildings on that Avenue.

Next Mr. Livingston presented a restudy of the facade, saying,—

"This is the one I want to show you now, the last study. Of course, we go further into detail, as you all know. This is the facade which has been simplified somewhat, and more concentrated in here, and made a little more Mexican Colonial than the original facade was. In reviewing it and coming back to it, we felt that Constitution Avenue was a little more classic and a little less Mexican-Colonial. That is the original facade, and we have cut the corner down to a more classical type, which makes a very simple composition, because costs these days, as most of you gentlemen know, are a little different than they were in 1933 or '35.

"We have made it a more practical building and cut it down a little in finish, except we have concentrated more here. Actually, this (indicating) is the Seal of the Pan American Union, that is, it would be an indication of the twenty-one flags, and the actual names of the twenty-one Republics are here.

"There is a simple terrace, and the building has really been simplified in treatment. We think it is much better, and we are giving them a little more building for their money as well, which these days one has to think of. . . .This composition was a little weak there. In coming back to it with a fresh eye, we felt it looked a little more like it might be the Mexican Embassy than the Pan American Union. We have concentrated there. We have spent the money, we think, in a better way. It is a simple building, and we think it will go better with Constitution Avenue than the old one. We have picked it up with a little echo here, just a little recall there to make it triangular."

Chairman Clarke remarked, "It seems to me the central unit is more unified." Mr. Livingston replied, "Much more. We think so."

Chairman Clarke asked whether the other facades have been changed.

Mr. Livingston replied, "The other facades are similarly changed and simplified. They are a little more classic. Maybe you can see it here. That is the rear and this is the rear. Again, we have simplified it a little bit. We have stressed this terrace a little more, now that this is on level ground. We have made it more on the classic side and less Mexican. We have certain freedom here to go with the freedom of the front. We are trying to get a little of the baroque touch in there."

Chairman Clarke said, "I like the fenestration" and Mr. Livingston remarked, "The fenestration is bigger. It is an office building and we are giving it more light. The windows are all larger.

As to material, Mr. Livingston said it will be white marble, and the tile roof will be the same color as the old existing building. Then he said,

"We have done one other thing with the building which I had better point out, which maybe isn't too evident on the facades, and that is that originally on this rear elevation there was a set-back here, a matter of a 5 or 6-ft. setback, and this upper wall was not in line with this wall. We brought it out for several reasons, not only the matter of appearance—in other words, this building is wider—but for the much more practical reason that they really need the space, and here they can really see down into this nice terrace and view. Up in there is a conference room and dining room for use.

dining room for use.

Mr. Livingston then called attention to "the fountain we have put there, moving it back so it would compose with the view from Virginia Avenue." Adjacent to it will be a little garden, "and some day they expect to place there the busts of great men, and call it Pan American Patio. This is Pan American Terrace (indicating)."

Mr. Finley remarked, "You should make the little fountain a memorial to Dr. Rowe, because he really had so much to do with the whole project." Dr. Manger thought this to be a good suggestion.

Mr. Aldrich asked about communication between the new and the old building, and General Grant said, "There is a tunnel that has already been built."

General Grant asked if provision has been made for parking automobiles anywhere. Mr. Livingston replied, "That was wiped out long ago. We have none. . . As I recall, in the old days in reviewing that corner that was very seriously object to. Whether attitudes have changed in regard to it I don't know."

Chairman Clarke said, "It is a public square, or in a sense semi-public." Dr. Manger said that they have facilities on the grounds of the old building for parking.

General Grant called attention to a plan of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, which provided for parking a few automobiles on the 19th Street side. This was then considered. Mr. Livingston said, "It would not hurt to have it, but we did not consider it because of the past history."

Chairman Clarke then made a rough sketch for a parking lot at the northwest corner of the property, generally along 19th Street, where space may be provided for approximately 12 cars. "We will add for the record that the Commission of Fine Arts approves of the service entrance from 19th Street and suggests the addition of a parking space, approximately 40 feet in width, to accommodate from ten to twelve cars, parallel to 19th Street and at the northwest corner

of the plot. The matter of the access and parking space will be taken up at a meeting of the Planning Commission for their consideration."

Mr. Livingston accepted the scheme and offered to have a drawing made of the parking lot at his office, to be submitted to the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts for approval.

General Grant remarked, "Major Clarke said he didn't like the idea of the inside sidewalks because it would be conducive to crossing the street and might be dangerous," and the Commission concurred in this.

A report of approval was sent to the architects (Exhibit M).

15. AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR BUILDING: Mr. Harvey Miller, architect, presented rough sketches for an American Federation of Labor Headquarters Building, to be built near 16th and H Streets, N.W. Mr. Miller said the American Federation of Labor owns two lots on 16th Street adjacent to St.John's Church and has bought the residence to the rear of the church, facing H Street. The zoning height is 90 feet.

The Commission noted that the St.John's Church Parish House is adjacent to the Lafayette Hotel. After discussion, the Commission advised that the American Federation of Labor try to "make a trade" with the vestrymen of St.John's Church, so that the Parish House would be adjacent to the church and the A. F. of L. building adjacent to the Lafayette Hotel. Mr. Finley, one of the vestrymen, said, "I think the Church would look very much better if the Parish House were next to the Church, which is an historic monument."

The Commission felt that the American Federation of Labor building should be kept low, similar to the Hay-Adams House.

Chairman Clarke informed Mr. Miller that the Commission would be glad to talk over the question of design after the question of location is settled.

16. ALBERT GALLATIN STATUE: The Secretary reported the receipt of a letter from Mr. James E. Fraser, sculptor of the Albert Gallatin Statue, stating---

August 15, 1947.

"The Albert Gallatin statue is in the foundry and I have seen the pieces of the cast, and I was much pleased with the bronze moulding. It had not been set together but the chasing is now taking place and it should be finished about the end of August or the first or second week in September. As I understand it the Secretary of the Treasury is abroad and doesn't want the work set in place for the unveiling until some time in October. You probably will know the date before I do. If you do obtain any information kindly let me know."

The Commission took note of the fact that the pedestal for the statue is in place on the north side of the Treasury Department Building. The statue would balance the Alexander Hamilton statue by Mr. Fraser on the south side.

17. OSCAR STRAUS MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN: The Secretary reported that recently Mr. David Hinshaw, 120 Broadway, New York City, was in Washington to make arrangements for the dedication of the Oscar Straus Memorial Fountain, in the Great Plaza, opposite the Department of Commerce Building. The architects, Eggers & Higgins, and Mr. Weinman, sculptor of the two figures to be set in place to flank the fountain proper, are attending to the completion of it. It is probable the fountain will be dedicated the latter part of October or early in November.

18. SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT SUBMISSION, for Residences at 7219-23 Sixteenth Street, N.W. (Application No.1145). The drawings, which were received from the Inspector of Buildings, were inspected by Mr. Reinhard and by Mr. Murphy, and on their recommendation the Commission approved them.

19. ANDREW W. MELLON MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN: The Commission gave consideration to the question of location of the proposed Andrew W. Mellon Memorial Fountain. Chairman Clarke stated that he had been thinking about making provision for the fountain on the north axis of the National Gallery of Art, as part of the scheme

arrangements for the dedication of the Oscar Straus Memorial Fountain, in the Great Plaza, opposite the Department of Commerce Building. The architects, Eggers & Higgins, and Mr. Weinman, sculptor of the two figures to be set in place to flank the fountain proper, are attending to the completion of it. It is probable the fountain will be dedicated the latter part of October or early in November.

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for the suggested Underpass at the intersection of Constitution and Pennsylvania Avenues.

Major Clarke suggested closing the short section of Sixth Street, between Constitution and Pennsylvania Avenues, thus providing a very appropriate site for the Memorial Fountain on the central axis of Sixth Street and of the National Gallery of Art.

The Commission felt it would be a splendid site for the fountain, if this could be arranged. Major Clarke said he would have a drawing made in his Office accordingly, and send it to Capt. Whitehurst for comment. (Exhibit N).

20. NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS: Chairman Clarke called attention to a letter received from Major General U. S. Grant III, President of the National Council for Historic Sites and Buildings (Exhibit O) appointing him a member of the Council.

Chairman Clarke stated that he would be willing to serve as an ex-officio member of the Council, and attend the meetings whenever possible (Exhibit O-1).

The Commission were invited by Mr. Finley to Luncheon at the National Gallery of Art. The Commission adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

COPY

The Commission of Fine Arts

Washington

July 21, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Ross:

With reference to the models for the "General Pershing Medal" by Anthony de Francisci, sculptor, photographs of which you submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts for comment, I have to report that on the recommendation of the Honorable Lee Lawrie, sculptor member of the Commission of Fine Arts, the Commission approve the models. However, Mr. Lawrie makes a few criticisms and suggestions, in which the Commission concur:

"The side with sword is excellent, but recommend that the rather extreme S's be made to conform more to the other letters; and I believe it would improve the portrait side if the horizontal bars and small stars were omitted and the oak leaf and acorns at the bottom be made larger. I would not know about the portraiture, but it seems to me that the head is deep for Pershing and the neck too short."

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Honorable Nellie Tayloe Ross, Director,
United States Mint, Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

(EXHIBIT A)

The Commission of Fine Arts

Washington

July 31, 1926.

Dear Mrs. Dunn:

With reference to the models for the "General Pershing Medal" by Anthony de Francisci, sculptor, photographs of which you submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts for comment, I have to report that on the recommendation of the Honorable Ira Lacrde, member thereof, the Commission at this time, the Commission approves the models. However, Mr. Lacrde added a few criticisms and suggestions, in which the Commission concurs:

"The side with sword is excellent, but recommend that the rather extreme S's be made to conform more to the other letters; and I believe it would improve the portrait side if the horizontal bars and small stars were omitted and the oak leaf and acorns at the bottom be made larger. I would not know about the portraiture, but it seems to me that the head is deep for Pershing and the neck too short."

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Charles H. Moore,
Chairman.

Honorable Mellon Taylor-Dunn, Secretary,
United States Mint, Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

(EXHIBIT A)

COPY

The Commission of Fine Arts

Washington

July 25, 1947.

Dear Captain Whitehurst:

The Commission of Fine Arts have received a revised design from Mr. Henry R. Shepley, architect, for the lamp standard to be used on the Twin Bridges at Fourteenth Street, dated June 5, 1947. The Commission approve the design. A print thereof is enclosed.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

GILMORE D. CLARKE,

Chairman.

Captain H. C. Whitehurst,
Director of Highways,
District Building,
Washington, D. C.

(EXHIBIT B)

Captain H. C. Whitehurst,
Director of Highways,
District Building,
Washington, D. C.

COPY

The Commidsion of Fine Arts

Washington

August 19, 1947.

Dear Mr. Reynolds:

By direction of Chairman Clarke, I have to report that the Commission of Fine Arts have desided that the Nathan Hale statue should be placed to the east of the main entrance of the Department of Justice Building on Constitution Avenue (instead of to the west), so that the statue will be between the main entrance and Ninth Street, and thereby have an unobstructed view southward. The Office of National Capital Parks, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, has been informed of the exact spot where the statue should be placed, about midway in this area and with wall space in the background.

Sincerely yours,

H.P. Caemmerer,
Secretary.

Hon. W. E. Reynolds, Commissioner,
Public Buildings Administration,
Federal Works Agency,
Washington, D. C.

(EXHIBIT C)

COPY

The Commission of Fine Arts

Washington

August 28, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Ross:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting today, approved the models by Erwin Springweiler, for the gold medal authorized by the Congress to honor the late General William Mitchell, which you submitted with your letter of August 27th.

The Commission approved the models, subject to the suggestion that the clouds, indicated on either side of General Mitchell's face, be omitted.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Honorable Nellie Tayloe Ross,
Director of the Mint,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

(Exhibit-D)

The Association of [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] 23, 1917.

[illegible] Mr. Chas.

The Committee of five [illegible], a [illegible] meeting [illegible], approved the models of Irwin Portsmouths, for the gold medal authorized by the Congress to [illegible] Lieut. General Phillip Sheridan, which are [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

The Committee approves [illegible] models, subject to the suggestion that the flower, indicated on [illegible] side of [illegible] Sheridan's face, be [illegible].

[illegible] the completion of this [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible],

[illegible]
Chairman.

[illegible]
Secretary of the Air.
Treasury Department.
Washington, D. C.

COPY

The Commission of Fine Arts

Washington

August 28, 1947.

Dear General Middleswart:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting today, approved the model by Thomas H. Jones, sculptor, for the obverse of the American Campaign Medal, which you submitted with your letter of August 26th.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Brigadier General W. H. Middleswart, Chief,
Military Planning Division, Q.M.G.,
War Department,
Washington, D. C.

(Exhibit-E)

Brigadier General W. H. Middleswarth, Chief,
War Department,
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Middleswarth:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting today, approved the model by Thomas H. Jones, sculptor, for the obverse of the [illegible] medal, which you submitted with your letter of August 26th.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

COPY

The Commission of Fine Arts
Washington

August 28, 1947.

Dear Mr. Crim:

Some weeks ago Commissioners Finley and Murphy joined me to look over the suggestion of the President to add a second floor porch in the south portico of the White House. We reviewed the preliminary studies prepared by Mr. Winslow and it was suggested that it would be desirable to have the recommendation of one of the country's outstanding architects who had previously been commissioned to work on the White House. Among the names suggested was that of Mr. Williams Adams Delano, who, you may recall, added a number of rooms constituting an additional floor in the central section of the White House. This addition above the roof line was so planned that it cannot be seen from any point of view outside of the White House and therefore in no manner affects the original building designed by James Hoban, during the latter part of the eighteenth century.

It is pertinent at this time to point out that the design prepared by James Hoban, formerly of Dublin, Ireland, was won in competition. The cornerstone was laid October 13, 1792, and the building was first occupied by President John Adams in November, 1800. In August, 1814, the White House was partially destroyed by fire when Washington was occupied by the British Army and it was fortunate that Hoban, the architect of the building, was still alive so that the restoration could be carried out under his direction. The north and south porticoes were not added until later but it is believed that these were both incorporated in Hoban's design.

The Commission of Fine Arts
Washington

August 25, 1947.

Dear Mr. Irish:

Some weeks ago Commissioners Finley and Murphy joined me in Lunch over the suggestion of the President to add a second floor porch in the south portico of the White House. We reviewed the preliminary studies prepared by Mr. Dinsmoor and it was suggested that it would be desirable to have the recommendation of one of the country's outstanding architects who had previously been commissioned to work on the White House. Among the names suggested was that of Mr. William Adams Delano, who, you may recall, added a number of rooms contributing an additional floor in the central section of the White House. This addition above the roof line was so planned that it cannot be seen from any point of view outside of the White House and therefore in no manner affects the original building designed by James Hoban, during the latter part of the eighteenth century.

It is pertinent at this time to point out that the design prepared by James Hoban, formerly of Dublin, Ireland, was won in competition. The contractwas was let October 13, 1792, and the building was first occupied by President John Adams in November, 1800. In August, 1814, the White House was partially destroyed by fire when Washington was occupied by the British Army and it was fortunate that Hoban, the architect of the building, was still alive so that the restoration could be carried out under his direction. The north and south porticoes were not added until later but it is believed that these were both incorporated in Hoban's design.

They were built in the Administration of John Quincy Adams, the South Portico in 1825 and the North Portico in 1829. Subsequently no substantial changes have been made in the exterior of the White House, so that its appearance today is as it was when the North Portico was completed in 1829, one hundred eighteen years ago.

Substantial additions were made in 1902, when the East and West Terraces were added, during the Administration of Theodore Roosevelt and under the direction of the architect Charles F. McKim. At this time the interior was substantially remodeled, but the exterior was carefully restored so that it might conform with the original plans by James Hoban.

As you realize, the White House is one of the most beautiful and notable among American historic monuments. In fact it is the oldest public building in the City of Washington. Thus the Commission of Fine Arts are reluctant to approve an important alteration to this great national monument, which would in some measure destroy the integrity of the original design. Insofar as we can determine there appears no precedent for the inclusion of balconies on classical buildings constructed during the latter part of the eighteenth and the early part of the nineteenth centuries.

Mr. Delano's sketch, superimposed on an enlarged photograph of the south facade of the White House, indicates rather forcibly that this porch would seriously mar the portico, inasmuch as the columns would appear dwarfed and thereby change the scale and loftiness of the columns.

We fully understand the desire on the part of the President to obtain relief during the hot Washington summers, but our sense of awareness indicates that to make the change in the South Portico would result in a flood of criticism by antiquarians and others whose views would be forcibly expressed in the public press. The same group of people who voiced objection to any

change in the West Executive Office Wing of the White House would again be heard, and I venture to say that they would make even louder protests than before over the prospect of changing the original design of the White House proper.

The Commission of Fine Arts have given this matter most careful and thoughtful consideration and they are hopeful that the President will not make a formal request to change the exterior of the White House.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Honorable H. G. Crim, Chief Usher,

The White House,

Washington, D. C.

(Exhibit-F)

Honorable H. G. Crim, Chief Usher,

The White House,

Washington, D. C.

(Exhibit-F)

[PUBLIC LAW 722—79TH CONGRESS]

[CHAPTER 955—2D SESSION]

[H. R. 5144]

AN ACT

To establish a national air museum, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) there is hereby established under the Smithsonian Institution a bureau to be known as a national air museum, which shall be administered by the Smithsonian Institution with the advice of a board to be composed of the Commanding General of the Army Air Forces, or his successor, the Chief of Naval Operations, or his successor, the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, and two citizens of the United States appointed by the President from civilian life who shall serve at the pleasure of the President. The members of the board shall serve as such members without compensation.

(b) The Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution with the advice of the board may appoint and fix the compensation and duties of the head of a national air museum whose appointment and salary shall not be subject to the civil-service laws or the Classification Act of 1923, as amended. The Smithsonian Institution may employ such other officers and employees as may be necessary for the efficient operation and administration of the museum.

SEC. 2. Said national air museum shall memorialize the national development of aviation; collect, preserve, and display aeronautical equipment of historical interest and significance; serve as a repository for scientific equipment and data pertaining to the development of aviation; and provide educational material for the historical study of aviation.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution with the advice of the advisory board is hereby directed to investigate and survey suitable lands and buildings for selection as a site for said national air museum and to make recommendations to Congress for the acquisition of suitable lands and buildings for said national air museum.

SEC. 4. (a) The board is authorized to adopt an official seal which shall be judicially noticed and to make such bylaws, rules, and regulations as it deems necessary for the administration of its functions. The board may function notwithstanding vacancies and three members of the board shall constitute a quorum for transaction of business.

(b) The Smithsonian Institution shall include in its annual report of its operations to Congress a statement of the operations of said national air museum, including all public and private moneys received and disbursed.

SEC. 5. (a) The heads of executive departments of the Government are authorized to transfer or loan to said national air museum

(EXHIBIT G)

without charge therefor aircraft, aircraft parts, instruments, engines, or other aeronautical equipment or records for exhibition, historical, or educational purposes.

(b) The Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, with the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts, is authorized (1) to accept as a gift to the Smithsonian Institution from George H. Stephenson, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, a statue of Brigadier General William L. Mitchell of such character as may be deemed appropriate, and (2) without expense to the United States, to cause such statue to be erected at a suitable location on the grounds of the national air museum.

SEC. 6. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated the sum of $50,000 for the purposes of this Act and there are hereby authorized to be appropriated annually hereafter such sums as may be necessary to maintain and administer said national air museum including salaries and all other necessary expenses.

Approved August 12, 1946.

COPY

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 5, 1947.

Dear General:

I appreciated very much your letter of August fourth in regard to the Nevius Tract in Arlington County, Virginia.

I still hope that the Hospital will be placed there - that is the logical place for it.

Sincerely yours,

HARRY S. TRUMAN

General U.S. Grant III,
Chairman,
National Capital Park and
Planning Commission,
Washington, D. C.

(EXHIBIT H)

WAR ASSETS ADMINISTRATION
Washington 25, D. C.

COPY

reply refer to:
PNI-1

August 22 1947

Mr. Gilmore D. Clarke
Chairman, Commission of Fine Arts
Interior Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Clarke:

Reference is made to your letter of August 4, 1947, regarding the disposition of the Nevius Tract located in Arlington County, Virginia.

Under the provisions of the Surplus Property Act Federal agencies are accorded top priority in the acquisition of surplus properties. Therefore, you may be assured that if this property is declared surplus to the War Assets Administration, first consideration will be given to any interest indicated by the Government.

You may also be assured that the interest expressed by the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and Commission of Fine Arts will be given full consideration before disposition is made of the property.

Cordially yours,

JAMES A. MOLLISON
Brigadier General, U.S.A.,
Associate Administrator

(EXHIBIT H-1)

(EXHIBIT B-1)

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

COPY

Office of
he Administrator of
Veterans Affairs

August 15, 1947.

Major General U. S. Grant, 3rd
United States Army, Ret.
Chairman, National Capital Park
and Planning Commission
Interior Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General Grant:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of August 6, 1947, transmitting a copy of letter sent to the President by the Chairman of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts, urging that the "so-called Nevius Tract in Arlington County, Virginia," be retained in Government ownership and be added to the Arlington National Cemetery.

In view of the action which was taken by the Congress in this matter, it is felt that the Veterans Administration should do everything it can to void the acquisition of this property by the Federal Government. Accordingly, I have asked the Attorney General to take any action that may be possible to divest the United States of title to this property.

I appreciate your having brought to my attention the desires of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts and want to assure you that the Veterans Administration is not unmindful of the cooperation which was extended by these two Commissions.

Sincerely yours

for OMAR N. BRADLEY
General, U. S. Army
Administrator

(EXHIBIT H-2)

(EXHIBIT H-2)

COPY

The Commission of Fine Arts

Washington

September 4, 1947.

The Honorable
The Attorney General of the United States
Washington 25, D. C.

Subject: Nevius Tract in Arlington County, Virginia.

My dear Mr. Attorney General:

The National Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission have for years recommended acquisition of the Nevius Tract by the Federal Government for the protection of the central composition of the National Capital, on the development of which so much money has already been spent. It so happens that the Nevius Tract is exactly in prolongation of the axis of the Mall, established by the Capitol, the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial and constitutes the background of the Lincoln Memorial as seen from points along the Mall. The importance of preserving this background and preventing it from being developed in an incongruous manner is of real importance to the Federal Government.

It is understood that the construction of a Veterans Hospital on this proerty has been prohibited by Congressional action and that the Veterans Administration has asked you to take whatever steps are possible to withdraw the condemnation suit and recover the funds already deposited in court, although immediate taking was filed and the title has passed to the United States.

In this connection the National Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission jointly recommend that this property be retained in Government ownership, if any way can be found to do so, because of its importance to the Government. Even if it is not possible to arrange at the present time to retain it permanently, we jointly recommend that its return to private ownership be delayed if impracticable until Congress meets again and an effort can be made to obtain a revision of the legislative action so hastily taken at the end of the last session.

Enclosed is a photostat of a letter received from the President on the subject, which indicates his personal interest in the matter and will surely be of interest to you in considering the above recommendation.

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke, Chairman
Commission of Fine Arts

U. S. Grant, 3rd
Major General, U.SA.,Ret.
Chairman

1 enclosure.

(EXHIBIT H-3)

1 enclosure.

Commission of Fine Arts

COPY

The Commission of Fine Arts

Washington

August 29, 1947.

Paul Manship, Esq.
319 East 72nd Street
New York, New York

Dear Paul:

A week or so ago I had occasion to review the Minutes of a few of the meetings of the Commission of Fine Arts held in 1941 and I came across an item, in the Minutes of the Meeting of February 28th of that year, concerning a seal for the Commission of Fine Arts. I asked Mr. Caemmerer to put this matter on the agenda for the meeting held yesterday inasmuch as I am still of the opinion that the Commission should have a seal; I recommended to the Commission that we follow the recommendation incorporated in the Minutes of February 28, 1941 on this subject.

You will note that you were asked to make a study and submit a design. The Commission would be happy indeed to have you do this, and I will be very glad to have you advise me concerning this matter. I know that the Commission would be delighted to adopt a seal by Paul Manship!

Cordially and sincerely,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

att.

(EXHIBIT I)

COPY

The Commission of Fine Arts

Washington

August 28, 1947.

Dear Mr. Reynolds:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting today, approved the designs for the north and south facades of the Federal Office Building at Virginia Avenue and Twenty-first Streets, with the suggestion that the sculpture over the main entrances on the upper parts of the central elements be omitted.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Honorable W. E. Reynolds, Commissioner,
Public Buildings Administration,
Federal Works Agency,
Washington, D. C.

(EXHIBIT J)

(EXHIBIT 1)

COPY

The Commission of Fine Arts
Washington

August 28, 1947.

Dear Mr. Reynolds:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting today, approved the design submitted by your Office for the G Street facade of the General Accounting Office Building, with the suggestion that the red granite flanking the entrance be lowered so as to be even with the first floor window sill. It is understood that the H Street facade will be similar.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Honorable W. E. Reynolds, Commissioner,

Public Buildings Administration,

Federal Works Agency,

Washington, D. C.

(EXHIBIT K)

COPY

The Commission of Fine Arts
Washington

August 28, 1947.

Dear Mr. Reynolds:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting today, approved the design submitted by your Office for the G Street facade of the General Accounting Office Building, with the suggestion that the recessed granite flooring [illegible] be lowered so as to be even with the first floor window sill. It is understood that the H Street facade will be similar.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Honorable E. A. Reynolds, Commissioner,
Public Buildings Administration,
Federal Works Agency,
Washington, D. C.

(Exhibit A)

[PUBLIC LAW 157—80TH CONGRESS]

[CHAPTER 196—1ST SESSION]

[S. J. Res. 113]

JOINT RESOLUTION

Authorizing the erection in the District of Columbia of a memorial to the Marine Corps dead of all wars.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed to grant authority to the Marine Corps League, Incorporated, to erect a memorial on public grounds in the District of Columbia in honor and in commemoration of the men of the United States Marine Corps who have given their lives to their country.

SEC. 2. The design and the site of such memorial shall be approved by the National Commission of Fine Arts, and the United States shall be put to no expense in or by the erection thereof.

SEC. 3. The authority conferred pursuant to this joint resolution shall lapse unless (1) the erection of such memorial is commenced within five years from the date of passage of this joint resolution, and (2) prior to its commencement funds are certified available in an amount sufficient, in the judgment of the Secretary of the Interior, to insure completion of the memorial.

Approved July 1, 1947.

(EXHIBIT L)

COPY

Remarks by Colonel J. R. Halford, Liaison Officer of the Marine Memorial Committee at the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts August 28, 1947.

COLONEL HALFORD: Thank you very much, Mr. Clarke.

I might say in starting that this project has been on the minds of a great many Marines and friends in this country, that is, the erection of a national memorial in memory and in honor of all Americans who have given their lives in defense of the country while serving in the Marine Corps since November 10, 1775.

There has never been erected any memorial shrine to the memory of these heroes, and this has been a very pressing thought with us for a great many years, and it of course was particularly amplified when they threw the 1st Division, that untired division, into Guadalcanal, and they with their Navy buddies checked the Jap advance and saved the lifeline, and also Australia and possibly India.

So we then said something had to be done after the war about this matter. It had to be a shrine or memorial outside the usual conception. It had to be some place where the friends, families, and the loved ones of these boys and men and women who had gone on could in peace and quiet commune in spirit with them.

Then when the incident of the Battle of Iwo Jima occurred and Mr. Rosenthal of the Associated Press caught that stirring flag raising on Mt. Suribachi, that immediately gave us the thought upon which we wanted to build this shrine and memorial, with that episode being perpetuated in lasting material for all times and set up here in the National Capital.

Of course, I do not want to take you time, but I am an old-time Marine, and I can see those boys out there in Iwo Jima with one eye looking through the sights as they poured it into the Japs and the other eye watching their buddies struggle up that hill, and when they finally accomplished their mission, the Good American roar that went up probably silenced all the firing for that few seconds.

So, we formed a committee in Washington here, which is incorporated, a Memorial Committee. We have the necessary By-Laws and we are ready to go ahead.

This memorial is to be of no expense to the government whatsoever. It is to be done by popular subscription. We anticipate no difficulty at all. There are hundreds and hundreds, I know, who have spoken to me, who would be more than delighted to be honored by being in this drive for this grand memorial.

Our first action, of course, was to get the necessary permission of Congress. Then it has to go to you gentlemen of the Fine Arts Commission, who by the mandate of Congress are to select the site and the design of this memorial, and when that is done, we will proceed to go to the public, and there is no question of the hundreds of thousands of Marine Corps alumni, as we might call them, who would be glad to pour in the money, besides thousands of friends.

(EXHIBIT I-1)

So, we want, and we know we will have, something very beautiful here, which will honor these citizens who have carried the flag of the United States with such great honor and distinction for 172 years, and have never been recognized in this manner before.

We hope you gentlemen will be very sympathetic with our general idea of memorializing our buddies putting that flag on Mt. Suribachi, which is so typically American, and American youth and democracy. We want that to live, and live forever.

You are not familiar with the Marine Corps League, probably. The League was called in by the Committee to sponsor this movement. It is the only Marine veterans' organization in the United States. It was formed twenty-five years ago and has been a continuous organization. We are incorporated by Congress, recognized by the Veterans Administration as a national veterans' organization, and have approximately 38,000 members in 500-odd detachments scattered throughout the United States. Part of our organization is a Women's Auxiliary, and they are very active and very interested in our work.

We appear very little in public. Our ideas are companionship, to assist the Marine Corps, and do all we can for anyone of the service who is in need of aid or rehabilitation.

We have always supported the Veterans Administration, particularly General Bradley 100 per cent, and you have seen how well he has worked that out, and on any project at all, national project, we go in wholeheartedly at the direction of our national staff. We are organized and that staff functions from New York.

COPY

The Commission of Fine Arts

Washington

August 28, 1947.

Dear Sirs:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting today, approved the revised designs for the facades of the Pan American Annex, on the triangle at Constitution Avenue and Nineteenth Street, Northwest, submitted by Mr. Livingston of your firm.

The Commission were particularly pleased with the scheme showing the proposed roadway entrance from Nineteenth Street. A small parking area is to be incorporated at the northwest corner of the property, more or less as indicated on a print of the plan.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Messrs. Harbeson, Hough, Livingston
and Larson, Architects,

Architects Building,

Philadelphia, Pa.

(EXHIBIT M)

COPY

The Commission of Fine Arts

Washington

January 29, 1917.

Dear Sirs:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting today, approved the revised designs for the facades of the Pan American Annex, on the triangle at Constitution Avenue and Nineteenth Street, Northwest, submitted by Mr. Livingston of your firm.

The Commission were particularly pleased with the scheme showing the treatment recommended by them. A small parking area is to be incorporated at the northwest corner of the property, such as is indicated on a print of the plan.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Messrs. Horgan, Horgan, Livingston
and Larson, Architects,

Architects Building,

Philadelphia, Pa.

(BENJAMIN M)

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
Interior Department Building
Washington

Captian H. C. Whitehurst
Director of Highways
District of Columbia
Department of Highways
14th & East Streets, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

September 3, 1947.

Dear Captain Whitehurst:

You are familiar with the provision of Public Law 194 of the 80th Congress which authorizes "the erection in the District of Columbia of a memorial to Andrew W. Mellon." The Law grants authority "to the Andrew W. Mellon Memorial Committee to erect a memorial fountain on public grounds in the vicinity of the intersection of Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues, in the District of Columbia, such grounds being now owned by the United States."

In looking about for a site for this memorial I suggested that it might be possible to close the short section of 6th Street between Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues thus providing an eminently fitting site for the Memorial Fountain on the central axis of 6th Street as well as on the central axis of the National Gallery of Art. The small reservation east of 6th Street between Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues is too small in itself to comfortably accommodate a suitable memorial fountain, and furthermore, to place a fountain just off the axis of the Gallery would always be disturbing.

In the traffic movement studies, prepared at the time preliminary plans were made for the elimination of the grade crossing of Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues, shown on the attached print, the engineers recommened that traffic on this short section of 6th Street be limited to those vehicles moving east along Pennsylvania Avenue wishing to turn south on 6th Street and west on Constitution Avenue. This relatively small volume of traffic could as well use 7th Street if 6th Street is closed.

The closing of this short section of 6th Street seems to me to be a possibility; however I suggested to the members of this Commission that it would be best to present the matter to you informally before discussing it further with any other person or agency.

As we stood at the principal entrance to the National Gallery and looked north across that Avenue and along 6th Street it was possible to visualize a fountain approximately 60 feet across its east-west dimension in a setting of trees on the axis of 6th Street between Constitution and Pennsylvania Avenues; such an element would tremendously enhance the general area near this important avenue intersection and lend greater distinction to the approach to the Gallery from points in the City north of Constitution Avenue.

We would appreciate having your comments on this suggestion.

Sincerely,

(EXHIBIT N)

Gilmore D. Clarke, Chairman.

Enclosures: 1. Copy of Public Law 194 - 80th Congress
2. Copy of a study indicating a possible scheme for the redevelopment of the junction of Constitution and Pennsylvania Avenues.

cc: Hon. David E. Finley (with print) Mr. H. P. Caemmerer (with copy of print)

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS

Washington, D. C.

August 12, 1947.

Mr. Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Clarke:

On April 15, 1947, an important meeting was held in the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C., for the purpose of organizing a National Council for Historic Sites and Buildings. Delegates of national and regional organizations concerned with the preservation and interpretation of historic American sites and structures, a number of individual persons of special competence in this field, and ex-officio representatives of the principal interested agencies of the Federal Government attended the organization meeting.

There is enclosed a copy of the by-laws of the organization, as approved by the conference, and given final form by a Drafting Committee. You will observe that under Article III, Section 1 (a), is a list of ex-officio members of the National Council. This list includes the Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts. In order to complete the formal organization of the Council, a meeting of the delegates of constituent organizations ratifying or planning to ratify the by-laws, of ex-officio members, and of a number of interested individual persons will be held at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D. C., October 20-21, 1947.

There are also enclosed remarks by Mr. George McAneny, Chairman of the Preparatory Committee in presenting the by-laws, together with a list of delegates and other persons in attendance at the conference of April 15. The temporary Officers and Executive Board elected to conduct the preparatory business of the organization are as follows:

President	U. S. Grant, 3rd. Major General USA (Ret.) Chairman, National Capital Park and Planning Commission.
Vice President	Mr. Kenneth Chorley, President, Colonial Williamsburg.
Exec. Vice President	Mrs. Dwight Davis.
Chairman, Executive Board	Mr. George McAneny, President, American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society.

(EXHIBIT O)

Mr. Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Clarke:

On April 15, 1947, an important meeting was held in the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C., for the purpose of organizing a National Council for Historic Sites and Buildings. Delegates of various national and regional organizations concerned with the preservation and interpretation of historic American sites and structures, a number of individual persons of special competence in this field, and co-ofﬁcio representatives of the principal interested agencies of the Federal Government attended the organization meeting.

There is enclosed a copy of the by-laws of the organization, as approved by the conference, and also a list of the Provisional Council. You will observe that under Article III, Section 1 (a), is a list of ex-officio members of the National Council. This list includes the Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts. In order to complete the formal organization of the Council, a meeting of the delegates of constituent organizations restyling or planning to ratify the by-laws, of ex-officio members, and of a number of interested individual persons will be held at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D. C., October 31-32, 1947.

There are also enclosed remarks by Mr. George McAneny, Chairman of the Preparatory Committee in presenting the by-laws, together with a list of delegates and other persons in attendance at the conference of April 15. The temporary officers and Executive Board elected to conduct the preliminary business of the organization are as follows:

President — U. S. Grant, 3rd, Major General USA (ret.), Chairman, National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

Vice President — Mr. Ferruccio Vitale, President, Colonial Williamsburg.

Secretary — Mrs. Ogden Reid.

Treasurer — Mr. George McAneny, President, American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society.

Board

TREASURER — Mr. Robert Garrett, President, Society for the Preservation of Maryland Antiquities.

SECRETARY — Mr. Ronald F. Lee, Chief Historian, National Park Service.

Members of the Executive Board

Mr. Waldo G. Leland, Director Emeritus, American Council of Learned Societies.
Mr. David E. Finley, Director, National Gallery of Art.
Dr. Guy Stanton Ford, Exec. Secy., American Historical Association
Mr. James R. Edmunds, Jr., former President, American Institute of Architects.

You will observe from the enclosed documents that there is in process of formation a national body which will be in effect a council of existing organizations of like purpose, national or regional in their scope. This will be composed of delegates of the organizations in question, of certain public officials, ex-officio, and of a limited number of members at large. It is the belief of those who participated in the conference of April 15 that such a national body will not in any way displace or compete with existing organizations of individual memberships, but will, on the contrary, be an agent of those organizations, controlled by them and capable of reinforcing, extending, and coordinating their own efforts and activities.

The urgent need for a mobilization of effort on a national scale for the preservation of historic sites and buildings is clearly and forcibly developed in the attached documents. It is hoped that you, as Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts, will express your willingness to serve - in person when possible, and when not, through your accredited representative - and that you will add the dignity of your high office to the common effort to perpetuate the major historical and architectural monuments of the United States.

It is requested that replies be directed to Mr. Ronald F. Lee, Secretary, Room 3125 Interior Building, Washington, D. C.

Sincerely yours,

U.S. Grant, 3rd, Major General
USA, (Ret.)
President, National Council for
Historic Sites and Buildings.

Enclosures.

TREASURER — Mr. Robert Garrett, President, Society for the Preservation of Maryland Antiquities.

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U.S. Grant, 3rd, Major General USA, (Ret.)
President, National Council for Historic Sites and Buildings.

Enclosures.

COPY

The Commission of Fine Arts

Washington

August 29, 1947.

Mr. Ronald F. Lee, Secretary
National Council for Historic
Sites and Buildings,
Room 3125
Interior Department Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Lee:

This will acknowledge General U. S. Grant III's letter of August 12th with respect to the organization of the National Council for Historic Sites and Buildings and indicating that the Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts has been named an ex-officio member of the National Council.

I shall be glad to serve personally and to attend stated meetings of the Council whenever possible. When it is not possible I shall appoint an accredited representative. Be assured that the Commission of Fine Arts is vitally interested in the perpetuation of major historic and architectural monuments of the United States.

I note that a meeting of the Council will be held at the National Gallery of Art in Washington on October 20th and 21st, 1947. I have marked these dates on my calender, hopeful that I may be able to arrange my affairs so that I may attend.

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

(EXHIBIT O-1)

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(EXHIBIT C-1)